

THE TESOL COLLEGE

CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION Course Information

Course Developer

THE TESOL COLLEGE
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This **Certificate in English Pronunciation** is an award of THE TESOL COLLEGE and is delivered globally from the UK as a distance learning, online course.

Course Aim

The purpose of this course is to provide participants with knowledge and skills in the sounds of English, how the sounds work together in connected speech, letter-sound ambiguities and the complexity of stress, rhythm and intonation features. The course also provides confidence in speaking and listening within the certainty of knowing how spoken English can vary so widely between countries, also between geographies and dialect groups within them.

Target Participants

The course will benefit all those interested in spoken English, whether for personal satisfaction or for the workplace. Teachers of English will particularly benefit by being on surer footing with the spoken language. The ability to use the phonetic alphabet to link letters and sounds will attract some phonics practitioners who will have curiosity about this as an alternative approach.

Entry Requirement

There are no formal academic entry requirements for this course. We expect it to appeal to a wide range of entrants with varying occupations, interests and qualifications.

Course Structure

UNIT 1	Introduction
UNIT 2	Phonemes and Phonetic Symbols
UNIT 3	Vowel Sounds
UNIT 4	Consonant Sounds
UNIT 5	Stress, Rhythm and Intonation
UNIT 6	Varieties of English

The course begins by examining the relationship between the written and spoken word in English, and the problems associated with English not being a phonetically-spelled language. The need for identification of discrete sounds, phonemes, to describe spoken language is rationalised.

Representation of phonemes by a phonetic alphabet consisting of phonetic symbols, an alternative to the English letter alphabet is introduced. We then familiarise with transcribing words from English script to phonetic symbol script and in the reverse direction, giving the ability to both analyse and describe to others letter-sound relationships and word-sound relationships without the ambiguity inherent using the English alphabet or, indeed phonics.

We then describe how each of the defined 44 phonemes for spoken English is made by use of the vocal organs. Variation within sound envelopes of phonemes is addressed.

Features of the spoken language above the phoneme level are studied. These are stress within words, stress across connected words in speech, rhythm arising from stress patterns in speech and intonation tunes arising from pitch changes. The association of meaning changes arising purely from stress and intonation changes becomes clearer.

Variation of spoken English is experienced through video content, enabling understanding of how widely the language has spread from its UK origins to become an international language with validity of wide variation in pronunciation.

Course Materials

- The 36-page Course Book contains comprehensive course notes book for the six units, including links to videos and set tasks.
- Appendix 1 in the Course Book provides the full vowel and consonant charts of phonetic symbols for the course.
- There is no course textbook, but a list of suggested further reading is given in Appendix 2 of the Course Book.
- Audio/video files will be sent to you as you progress through the course, giving rendition of some of the words, phrases and sentences in the course notes.
- A 45-page set of Grammar Notes is provided, to be used as a background resource if necessary.

Assessment

There are 8 written tasks to complete, embedded in the course notes. Send these to your tutor, who will provide feedback. When the tasks have been completed satisfactorily, you will be deemed to have passed.

Course Fee

The course fee is £80 (GBP 80). There is no GST/VAT to add and there are no extra fees.

The fee includes the course materials, online tutor support and task feedback, the certificate and transcript and their dispatch by mail, plus all administration costs.

Course Duration

A commitment of at least 40 hours is expected, including thoroughly utilising the web resources linked to in the course notes.

Date completion of the written tasks is to be within six months of the commencement date.

Tutors

Our online course tutors have a minimum of a Certificate or Diploma of at least 100 hours duration in teaching English, or a Certificate or Diploma in teaching. In addition, the tutor will have a minimum of five years in teaching of English.

Online tutors:

- For Asia, Europe and Africa: Dr Alan Richardson based in the UK.
- For the Americas: Ms Evelyn Hirst based in Canada.

THE TESOL COLLEGE is an Institutional Member of

SATEFL

The Scottish Association for the
Teaching of English as a Foreign Language



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